 Ms. Seniority & Mrs. Generosity: Mary Jo O’Hagan **©2013**

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 About a half century ago, *when Mary Jo entered the workforce*, teachers may indeed have been underpaid. But the pendulum has swung to the other extreme and Mrs. O’Hagan has not kept time.

 This past week at the 10/8/2013 Board meeting, she proudly announced that she is suing New York State to overturn the 2% tax cap. She joins the teachers’ union which has a companion lawsuit to do the same.

 Under the 2% tax cap, taxes have gone up the last two years 11% & 6% respectively. Mary Jo wants to make it easier to raise taxes even higher so the already excessive salaries & benefits can climb even higher. Mrs. O’Hagan’s decades of generous salary hikes matches her insatiable requests for tax hikes from residents and tax revenue from New York State.

Every tax hike is a pay cut for the homeowners, the private sector. Mary Jo O’Hagan won’t even consider pay cuts for the public sector school employees, her lifelong colleagues.

Her career in a nearby school district makes her a too loyal ally to school employees at the expense of our school program. They are her friends with benefits, $ 23 million dollars’ worth of benefits…. one fifth of our budget.

*Mrs. O’Hagan has served the Baldwin School Board for decades. Being a board member is time consuming….. lots of meetings, lots of paperwork, lots of responsibility. She deserves the community’s thanks for her effort, despite the results. The BaldwinBudget website hopes she gracefully retires when her current term expires to make room for fresh blood. The website thinks that school board members should have “skin in the game”… children in the school system. The website thinks that two decades of fiscal mismanagement should be exposed.*